

NEW SOUTH WALES.

MONTHLY SUMMARY
OF
BUSINESS STATISTICS

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SYDNEY :

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SECTION A.—RAINFALL AND PRODUCTION.

1. RAINFALL—INDEX.

Index showing Weighted Average Ratio of Actual to Normal Rainfall.

(Average rainfall for each month = 100.)

Month.	Sheep Districts.					Wheat Districts.				Dairying Districts (Coastal only).			
	N.	C.	S.	W.	T.	N.	C.	S.	T.	N.	C.	S.	T.
1944.													
March ...	19	50	57	30	41	15	52	55	49	54	51	25	50
April ...	34	33	105	70	61	52	36	104	80	4	48	102	28
May ...	122	123	155	63	127	169	118	134	135	27	51	232	59
June ...	21	13	13	19	16	21	13	12	14	62	62	20	57
July ...	109	67	41	61	70	102	59	41	53	188	105	43	148
August ...	233	152	42	175	142	230	127	47	90	279	189	109	234
September ...	47	34	20	19	31	34	39	19	26	77	59	16	65
October ...	30	33	95	28	52	23	38	98	73	31	33	54	34
November ...	35	45	46	32	41	39	43	47	45	73	31	28	56
December ...	42	8	55	49	37	34	11	56	42	59	32	43	50
1945.													
January ...	104	151	114	42	114	109	159	116	127	51	83	134	70
February ...	189	125	82	69	123	155	110	71	92	106	89	86	99
March ...	24	40	30	28	31	31	41	26	30	46	33	35	41

N.—Northern; C.—Central; S.—Southern; W.—Western; T.—Total, all districts.

2. WOOL.

The total production of wool in New South Wales was 546,273,000 lb. in 1939-40; 536,907,000 lb. in 1940-41; 547,000,000 lb. in 1941-42; 497,538,000 lb. in 1942-43 and 537,410,000 lb. in 1943-44.

The British Government has entered into a contract with the Commonwealth to purchase the wool clips of Australia for the duration of the war and one year thereafter. The agreed average price for seasons 1939-40 to 1941-42 was 10·75d. sterling or 13·4375d. Australian Currency, per lb. This price was increased to 12·3625d. sterling or 15·4531d. Australian Currency per lb., commencing with the 1942-43 clip.

Month.	Number of Bales Received into Store in Sydney.							
	During Month.				Total for Season to end of Month.			
	1941-42.	1942-43.	1943-44.	1944-45.	1941-42.	1942-43.	1943-44.	1944-45.
July ...	80,397	67,442	83,715	76,207	80,397	67,442	83,715	76,207
August ...	191,662	128,260	105,532	113,506	272,059	195,702	189,247	189,713
September ...	269,889	180,883	158,065	73,356	541,948	376,585	347,312	263,069
October ...	288,766	159,950	173,622	129,588	830,714	572,535	520,934	392,657
November ...	166,462	159,518	128,231	166,656	997,176	732,053	649,165	559,313
December ...	63,866	88,943	94,774	111,713	1,061,042	820,996	743,939	671,026
January ...	24,821	37,213	135,652	101,888	1,085,863	858,209	879,591	772,914
February ...	31,461	30,274	60,931	24,884	1,117,324	888,483	940,522	797,798
March ...	29,000	44,208	43,493	23,799	1,146,324	932,691	984,015	821,597
April ...	43,583	40,835	42,000	.....	1,189,907	973,526	1,026,015	.....
May ...	36,173	41,491	51,274	.....	1,226,080	1,015,017	1,077,289	.....
June ...	37,597	56,745	56,870	.....	1,263,677	1,071,762	1,134,159	.....

3. WHEAT.

Production in New South Wales. Compiled from returns of wheatgrowers.

Season.	Area under Wheat.		Yield of Grain.	
	Total.	Harvested For Grain.	Total.	Average per Acre.
Average 1933-34	acres.	acres.	bushels.	bushels.
to 1942-43	4,492,000	4,126,000	52,591,000	12·7
1940-41... ..	4,866,000	4,454,000	23,933,000	5·4
1941-42... ..	4,342,000	3,969,000	48,500,000	12·2
1942-43... ..	3,386,000	3,033,000	51,693,000	17·0
1943-44... ..	2,975,000	2,693,000	47,500,000	17·6

The final estimate by the Division of Marketing, Department of Agriculture, of the 1944-45 wheat yield is 17,978,000 bushels.

4. BUTTER OUTPUT—N.S.W. FACTORIES.

The British Government purchases under contract the exportable surplus of Australian butter. The contract price for choicest, 142s. rod. per cwt. f.o.b. Australian ports from July, 1942, was increased to 184s. 8½d. from July, 1944. The wholesale price for local consumption has been 166s. rod. per cwt. since 6th March, 1942.

Month.	Average, 1937-38 to 1939-40.	1941-42.	1942-43.	1943-44.	1944-45.
Thousand lb.					
July	5,061	4,592	5,163	3,313	2,462
August	5,361	4,638	5,346	3,279	3,065
September	7,093	5,850	5,952	4,933	5,397
October	10,107	7,504	7,499	8,626	8,488
November	13,128	7,935	11,275	11,553	8,168
December	13,471	8,608	12,032	13,079	7,532
January	12,310	6,664	13,044	12,821	8,003
February	11,816	8,311	10,219	10,184	6,769
March	11,370	10,116	8,648	8,440	.....
April	10,044	8,642	6,129	5,165	.....
May	8,145	6,789	4,789	3,870	.....
June	6,024	5,467	3,679	2,594	.....
Year	113,930	85,116	93,775	87,857	.....
Eight Months ended Feb.	78,347	54,102	70,530	67,788	49,884

5. MANUFACTURING INDUSTRY.

The following results from 42 large factories afford an indication of trends in manufacturing :—

Month.	Factory Sales.				Employees.				Weekly Salaries and Wages.			
	1942.	1943.	1944.	1945.	1942.	1943.	1944.	1945.	1942.	1943.	1944.	1945.
Thousand £.				Hundreds.				Hundred £.				
January ...	4,519	5,808	4,965	4,983	282	275	261	241	1,459	1,563	1,493	1,393
February ...	4,768	4,799	5,712	5,250	282	272	258	240	1,484	1,546	1,476	1,404
March ...	5,097	5,451	5,765	.....	280	270	256	.....	1,477	1,534	1,469	.....
April ...	4,904	5,424	4,830	.....	278	271	256	.....	1,513	1,501	1,449	.....
May ...	4,925	5,696	5,878	.....	278	269	253	.....	1,517	1,517	1,447	.....
June ...	5,077	5,632	5,478	.....	277	269	252	.....	1,564	1,544	1,438	.....
July ...	5,410	5,520	5,061	.....	277	268	251	.....	1,531	1,514	1,426	.....
August ...	5,003	5,500	5,476	.....	277	266	249	.....	1,532	1,533	1,413	.....
September ...	5,352	5,710	5,222	.....	277	267	248	.....	1,564	1,525	1,416	.....
October ...	5,420	5,753	5,449	.....	280	266	247	.....	1,576	1,536	1,400	.....
November ...	5,826	5,701	5,811	.....	280	264	246	.....	1,603	1,517	1,433	.....
December ...	5,853	5,653	5,159	.....	279	265	246	.....	1,583	1,552	1,441	.....
Average (January-December)	5,180	5,554	5,400	.....	279	269	252	.....	1,534	1,537	1,441	.....

6. BUILDING INDUSTRY.

(a) SUMMARY OF PRIVATE BUILDING.

Value of permits to erect new buildings and additions (compiled from returns of Municipal and certain Shire Councils). Government buildings are excluded.

Year.	Month of March.				March Quarter.		
	Sydney and Suburbs.	City of Sydney.	Suburbs of Sydney.		Industrial and Rural Towns.	Total, New South Wales.*	
	Total New Buildings and Additions.	New Buildings and Additions.	New Buildings.		New Buildings.	New Buildings and Additions.	
			No. of Permits.	Value.	No. of Permits.	Value.	
1942 ...	£ 55,985	£ 10,141	13	£ 10,695	386	£ 299,460	£ 957,504
1943 ...	104,515	4,752	11	15,808	84	32,923	414,853
1944 ...	158,572	86,069	21	18,480	73	50,140	505,954
1945 ...	177,994	13,704	109	81,735	161	102,840	881,381

* Metropolis, 7 adjacent Shires and 129 rural and industrial towns; other areas not recorded.

(b) CLASSES OF PRIVATE BUILDING.

The following dissection of private building permits granted in Sydney and Suburbs and in 129 Industrial and Rural Towns in N.S.W. shows the total value for each of the principal classes of building :—

Period.	Value of New Buildings and Alterations and Additions.						
	Houses.		Flats. (a)	Factories.	Shops (b) and Public Garages.	Other (Offices, Hotels, Hospitals, etc.).	Total.
	Brick.	Wood, Fibro, etc.					
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
<i>Sydney and Suburbs.</i>							
Month of March—							
1943	2,945	2,421	500	80,571	2,072	16,006	104,515
1944	7,871	7,999	3,389	124,149	1,958	13,206	158,572
1945	38,931	53,337	1,218	45,927	1,590	36,991	177,994
Nine months ended March							
1943	25,497	24,813	1,424	757,533	13,281	205,715	1,028,263
1944	34,019	44,254	11,696	755,451	8,078	197,500	1,050,998
1945	173,973	241,843	11,801	737,706	15,127	265,145	1,445,595
<i>129 Industrial and Rural Towns.</i>							
March Quarter—							
1944	7,005	33,444	4,289	38,999	2,785	30,983	117,505
1945	10,346	87,884	200	45,807	13,976	31,144	189,357
Nine months ended March							
1944	17,502	89,256	5,442	108,597	9,576	93,969	324,342
1945	25,098	202,616	1,981	139,981	24,695	122,456	516,827

Includes (a) conversions to flats; (b) shops with dwellings attached.

(c) GOVERNMENT BUILDING.

In addition to total for private building shown above, value of work authorised and contracts accepted for the erection of buildings on behalf of Governments and semi-Governmental authorities in New South Wales was as follow :—

Area.	Value of New Buildings and Additions (Governmental).					
	Month of March			Nine months ended March.		
	1943.	*1944.	1945.	1943.	*1944.	1945.
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Sydney and Suburbs	830,679	151,644	274,318	2,413,443	1,631,211	1,580,316
Remainder of State	171,066	104,113	113,340	1,762,367	629,350	974,152
Total, New South Wales ...	1,001,745	255,757	387,658	4,175,810	2,260,561	2,554,468

NOTE.—Temporary structures for protection against Air Raids and alterations for this purpose are, in general, excluded.

* Revised.

SECTION B.—TRADE.

7. WHOLESALE TRADE.

Approximate Amount of Sales (N.S.W.) by Traders Registered under Sales Tax Acts.
Total Taxable and Exempt Goods.

Period.	1939.	1940.	1941.	1942.	1943.	1944.	1945.
Million £.							
Year ended 31st December ...	200.29	202.79	229.03	238.65	240.54	251.40	.....
January ...	13.24	16.33	15.83	18.69	17.18	18.01	18.62
February ...	16.54	14.64	17.48	19.39	21.60	20.48	21.47
March ...	15.78	16.97	17.40	19.53	19.44	18.00	.....
April ...	15.79	17.88	19.06	19.19	21.88	21.68	.....
May ...	17.46	14.85	18.75	20.72	19.56	21.45	.....
June ...	14.88	17.07	21.76	18.93	20.91	20.67	.....
July ...	15.28	16.74	17.63	19.17	19.81	20.87	.....
August ...	16.81	17.17	20.41	20.86	18.75	23.82	.....
September ...	19.44	17.48	21.60	19.59	19.93	21.46	.....
October ...	19.22	18.50	18.25	22.06	20.80	21.82	.....
November ...	17.53	18.13	20.58	19.54	21.07	20.30	.....
December ...	18.32	17.03	20.28	20.98	19.61	22.84	.....

8. RETAIL TRADE.

Returns collected by the Retail Traders' Association Research Bureau in conjunction with the Commonwealth Bank from the principal Sydney stores indicate the following increases or decreases per cent. for periods shown below compared with corresponding periods of previous year:—

Period.	Number of Business Days in Period.		Net Sales (Value).	Value of Stock.	Wages and Salaries Paid.	Number of Employees.	Three Monthly Moving Average ended month shown.	
	Previous Year.	Current Year.					Net Sales (Value).	Wages and Salaries Paid.
Year ended December—								
Percentage increase + or decrease —								
1938 ...	303	303	+ 4.8	+ 5.2	+ 11.6	+ 5.0		
1939 ...	303	303	+ 2.4	+ 2.0	+ 2.6	+ 0.9		
1940 ...	303	305	+ 6.3	+ 17.0	+ 4.0	+ 1.9		
1941 ...	305	304	+ 14.6	+ 8.0	+ 9.0	+ 4.0		
1942 ...	304	303	— 5.3	+ 9.2	— 5.1	— 8.4		
1943 ...	303	306	— 11.3	— 6.8	— 9.7	— 17.6		
1944 ...	306	302	+ 3.2	— 0.2	— 4.6	+ 1.4		
1944.								
February ...	24	25	+ 1.6	— 2.9	+ 1.9	— 7.4	— 0.2	— 3.2
March ...	27	27	+ 10.4	— 5.1	— 1.3	— 8.8	+ 1.3	— 1.8
April ...	23	21	— 8.8	— 3.3	— 6.6	— 8.5	+ 0.5	— 2.2
May ...	26	27	+ 0.7	— 0.6	— 0.8	— 6.6	+ 0.5	— 2.9
June ...	26	25	+ 2.7	+ 0.8	— 2.2	— 7.5	— 1.8	— 3.2
July ...	27	26	+ 3.8	— 0.4	— 3.6	— 5.4	+ 2.1	— 2.2
August ...	26	27	+ 11.8	+ 4.2	+ 2.4	— 4.3	+ 6.1	— 1.1
September ...	26	27	+ 3.7	+ 5.0	— 1.5	— 3.8	+ 6.6	— 0.9
October ...	25	25	+ 5.6	+ 4.3	+ 0.1	— 3.2	+ 7.0	+ 0.3
November ...	26	26	+ 10.6	+ 4.4	+ 0.9	— 2.5	+ 6.8	— 0.2
December ...	25	24	+ 6.1	+ 4.6	— 0.6	— 1.3	+ 7.4	+ 0.1
1945.								
January ...	23	25	+ 30.1	+ 2.6	+ 5.2	— 0.9	+ 11.0	+ 1.6
February ...	25	24	+ 6.7	+ 7.7	— 2.4	— 3.3	+ 10.0	+ 0.7

Further particulars of monthly employment in retail trade are shown in Table 20.

SECTION C.—TRANSPORT AND TRAFFIC.

9. RAILWAYS.

NEW SOUTH WALES RAILWAYS REVENUE AND BUSINESS.

The financial results of operations were:—

	Month of February.			Eight Months ended February.		
	Gross Revenue.	Working Expenses.*	Excess of Revenue over Working Expenses	Gross Revenue.	Working Expenses.*	Excess of Revenue over Working Expenses.
	£	£	£	£	£	£
1943 ...	2,567,082	1,748,195	818,887	22,730,002	16,164,498	6,565,504
1944 ...	2,748,351	1,959,913	788,438	23,291,836	17,116,168	6,175,668
1945 ...	2,430,019	1,904,866	525,153	21,167,950	15,831,865	5,336,085

* Excluding capital charges, viz. interest, exchange, sinking fund, etc., which amounted to £7,012,000 in 1943-44.
 † Excluding Government contribution £800,000 annually for developmental lines.

	Month of February.		Eight Months ended February.	
	Tonnage of Goods and Livestock.*	Passenger Journeys.	Tonnage of Goods and Livestock.*	Passenger Journeys.
	thousands.	thousands.	thousands.	thousands.
1943 ...	1,557	18,649	13,181	155,190
1944 ...	1,514	21,349	13,025	165,758
1945 ...	1,543	20,775	12,704	166,641

* Partly estimated.

10. TRAMWAYS AND OMNIBUSES.

SERVICES OPERATED BY THE DEPARTMENT OF ROAD TRANSPORT, NEW SOUTH WALES

PERIOD.	SYDNEY AND SUBURBS.			NEWCASTLE AND SUBURBS.		
	Earnings.	Excess of Earnings over Working Expenses.*	Passengers carried.†	Earnings.	Excess of Earnings over Working Expenses.*	Passengers carried.
Month of February—	£	£	thousands.	£	£	thousands.
1943 ...	403,300	68,230	36,216	40,200	9,097	3,196
1944 ...	419,400	49,000	38,163	44,800	8,500	3,575
1945 ...	413,600	48,700	39,247	44,600	8,200	3,633
Eight months ended February—						
1943 ...	3,360,162	432,628	300,497	328,239	62,767	26,150
1944 ...	3,432,920	323,810	313,271	351,320	51,900	28,109
1945 ...	3,497,400	351,000	333,824	372,000	55,200	30,368

* Exclusive of Sinking Fund, Interest on Loan Capital, Exchange and Current Depreciation (Sydney and Newcastle), which amounted to £546,700 in 1943-44.

† Exclusive of Sydney Harbour Bridge passengers whose journey did not extend beyond the Bridge Section.

11. MOTOR VEHICLES.

NUMBER OF REGISTERED MOTOR VEHICLES (N.S.W.) AS AT VARIOUS DATES.
(Exclusive of Vehicles of Defence Services.)

Class.	1939. 31st August.	1943.		1944.			1945.	
		31st March.	31st December.	31st March.	30th June.	31st December.	28th February.	31st March.
Cars ...	216,633	172,805	177,245	178,986	180,938	184,364	184,848	185,061
Lorries and Vans ...	77,639	71,411	75,068	76,450	78,023	80,495	81,169	81,640
Trailers ...	6,538	6,784	7,409	7,679	7,621	8,501	8,755	8,871
Tractors† ...	1,102	1,389	1,429	1,455	1,517	1,636	1,646	1,666
Cycles—Solo ...	17,111	9,805	9,842	10,016	11,162	11,649	11,726	11,794
Cycles—Side-car ...	6,884	4,590	4,518	4,581	3,735	3,897	3,946	3,995
Omnibuses ...	794	913	913	931	977	1,018	1,013	1,012
Taxi-cabs ...	1,331	1,349	1,348	1,348	1,349	1,352	1,352	1,351
Traders' Plates ...	1,187	590	634	609	624	642	631	631
Total ...	329,219	269,636	278,406	282,055	285,946	293,554	295,086	296,021

† Excluding tractors used on farms only.

Average Weekly Number of New Vehicles Registered.*

Year.	Cars (Including Cabs and Omnibuses).						Lorries and Vans.					
	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Jan.	Feb.	March.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Jan.	Feb.	March.
1940-41 ...	128	173	163	141	163	167	64	77	69	53	70	71
1941-42 ...	44	43	38	23	26	18	43	52	61	32	25	23
1942-43 ...	21	18	12	7	19	7	4	5	2	6	8	13
1943-44 ...	6	4	5	3	5	4	64	86	94	67	74	88
1944-45 ...	6	10	9	5	6	7	53	65	58	38	48	45

* Excluding trailers.

12. WIRELESS LICENSES.

BROADCAST LISTENERS' LICENSES IN FORCE IN N.S.W.

(Excluding Experimental Licenses.)

End of Month.	1940-41.	1941-42.	1942-43.	1943-44.	1944-45.
	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.
June ...	458,155	494,884	500,451	552,044	560,032
September ...	479,485	500,125	509,332	554,227	563,425
October ...	483,148	499,804	515,228	555,450	561,504
November ...	482,837	499,614	519,375	557,140	562,093
December ...	483,875	501,253	523,920	558,381	560,717
January ...	485,854	503,346	527,733	556,775	564,184
February ...	488,362	500,449	533,597	561,066	563,702
March ...	491,816	502,810	536,795	560,665	563,791

SECTION D.—FINANCIAL.

13. SAVINGS BANK DEPOSITS (NEW SOUTH WALES).†

As at June 30th.	Amount of Deposits.†	End of Month.	Amount of Deposits.			
			1939-40.	1942-43.	1943-44.	1944-45.
	£000		£000	£000	£000	£000
1933 ...	72,308	April ...	86,222	91,111	115,500	156,025
1934 ...	75,714	May ...	86,097	92,925	118,016	157,045
1935 ...	77,906	June† ...	87,474	94,538	122,405	162,867
1936 ...	80,000	July ...	87,201	97,331	126,689	166,751
1937 ...	81,952	August ...	86,957	99,727	130,519	170,104
1938 ...	86,016	September ...	86,557	101,385	134,163	173,937
1939 ...	87,474	October ...	86,751	103,583	136,326	173,981
1940 ...	82,111	November ...	86,684	104,930	138,328	176,748
1941 ...	87,750	December ...	86,581	105,745	142,108	179,128
1942 ...	94,538	January ...	86,716	109,220	146,283	181,801
1943 ...	122,405	February ...	87,167	112,818	150,375	184,725
1944 ...	162,867	March ...	86,759	115,642	154,154	187,894

† Including accrued interest.

† Amount at credit of depositors' accounts.

WAR SAVINGS CERTIFICATES: The net amount received from sales of certificates less re-purchases in New South Wales totalled £17,569,797 as at 28th February, 1945, including £164,574 net receipts in February.

14. TRADING BANKS*—DEPOSITS, ETC., IN AUSTRALIA.

March Quarter.	Deposits.	Cash in Aust.†	Treasury Bills.	Govt. and Municipal Securities.	Special Wartime Deposits with Comw'th Bank.	Advances.
	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000
1941 ...	371,127	45,557	43,472	57,659	...	278,213
1942 ...	391,254	43,732	49,496	58,221	27,587	265,037
1943 ...	447,333	43,947	78,540	61,949	80,472	236,361
1944 ...	526,888	46,925	74,500	80,435	150,478	224,573
1945 ...	590,107	40,853	67,882	113,997	218,746	200,161

*Nine Private Banks.

† Exclusive of London Funds.

15. PRIVATE BUSINESS IN PRIVATE BANKS (N.S.W.).

(Excluding Commonwealth and Rural Banks, and excluding Government deposits and Government Securities in Private Trading Banks.)

March Quarter.	Deposits.			Advances.	Excess of Deposits over Advances.
	Not Bearing Interest (Current).	Bearing Interest (Fixed).	Total.		
	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000
1941 ...	71,478	66,474	137,952	111,160	26,792
1942 ...	82,314	64,897	147,211	108,608	38,603
1943 ...	101,438	62,513	163,951	95,356	68,595
1944 ...	124,420	71,806	196,226	85,869	110,357
1945 ...	145,044	77,453	222,497	81,791	140,706

16. INTER-BANK CLEARINGS (SYDNEY).

(Value of cheques drawn on a Bank other than the Bank in which they were Deposited.)

Month.	1939.	1940.	1941.	1942.	1943.	1944.	1945.	1939.	1940.	1941.	1942.	1943.	1944.	1945.
Amount—Million £								Index Numbers.						
January ...	66.5	82.7	90.3	92.0	106.7	107.5	114.2	98	110	117	123	136	150	152
February ...	75.5	88.9	82.0	97.1	105.7	121.2	114.1	96	110	114	123	139	147	149
March ...	80.5	87.8	89.4	102.6	123.4	130.1	123.4	93	107	110	119	138	146	145
April ...	70.7	84.3	86.9	95.4	125.3	108.4	...	98	111	111	125	150	150	...
May ...	82.0	90.2	106.3	98.9	123.0	143.5	...	100	111	117	125	155	158	...
June ...	80.3	94.5	97.4	116.6	132.6	140.1	...	101	115	123	133	163	166	...
July ...	71.2	94.6	98.9	99.7	114.3	122.9	...	98	116	125	130	155	168	...
August ...	74.9	83.6	87.0	99.0	122.7	127.4	...	99	118	123	135	160	169	...
September ...	74.9	84.5	94.9	105.6	116.5	120.9	...	99	117	124	134	155	163	...
October ...	78.0	90.1	101.8	115.0	115.5	123.7	...	100	113	123	138	152	159	...
November ...	86.1	93.5	99.6	105.0	129.3	126.3	...	102	114	124	135	149	153	...
December ...	91.7	100.1	104.9	121.6	127.3	127.6	...	106	115	124	136	150	152	...
Year ...	932.3	1074.8	1139.4	1248.5	1442.3	1499.6	...	100	113	120	131	151	156	...

The index may be regarded as an approximate measure of changes in the volume of business transactions settled by cheques provided it is considered in conjunction with changes in price levels. It represents the ratio of each month's clearings to the average for the month concerned during the five years 1926-1930. This average is represented by 100 each month. Seasonal fluctuations have thus been eliminated. Casual fluctuations in monthly index numbers have been smoothed out by taking a three months' moving average, that is, the index shown above for each month is the average of the actual index of that month and the preceding two months. It may be compared vertically or horizontally.

The index is adjusted to eliminate the effects of Treasury Bill and other special transactions on behalf of Governments and the effects of bank amalgamations. No adjustment has been made for normal growth or change of price levels. The amounts of clearings shown are the recorded totals less Treasury Bill transactions only.

17. INTEREST RATES PER CENT. (N.S.W.).

Period.	Private First Mortgages Registered. Weighted Average Rate of Interest.*		Yield on Commonwealth Government Securities†—subject to Commonwealth Income Tax—				
			Not exceeding Rates in force in 1930.			At Current Rates.	
	Urban Securities.	Rural Securities.	Short-dated.	Medium-dated.	Long-dated.	Short-dated. 2 years.	Long-dated. 12 years.
Average for year—			Under 5 years.	5 to 10 years.	10 years and over.		
1938	5'4	5'0	3'38	3'71	3'76	...	...
1939	5'6	5'2	3'84	3'87	3'92	...	...
1940	5'6	5'1	3'14	3'25	3'30	...	...
1941	5'5	4'9	2'45	2'95	3'10	...	...
1941	5'5	4'9	2'42	2'87	3'13	2'47	3'23
1942	5'4	4'9	2'39	2'89	3'11	2'45	3'24
1943	5'0	4'7	2'43	2'72	§	2'48	3'23
1944	5'0	4'4	2'30	2'60	...	2'45	3'24
Months—							
1944—March...	5'0	4'5	2'40	2'69	...	2'43	3'24
June	5'0	4'4	2'32	2'62	...	2'44	3'24
September ...	5'0	4'6	2'34	2'49	...	2'47	3'24
December ...	5'0	4'3	2'19	2'51	...	2'49	3'24
1945—February...	4'9	4'4	2'08	2'41	...	2'46	3'25
March	4'9	4'4	2'14	2'43	...	2'48	3'25

* Monthly rate is average of three months ended month shown.

† Compiled by Commonwealth Bank as at last Wednesday in month.

§ Subsequent yields uncertain.

18. REAL ESTATE TRANSACTIONS (N.S.W.).

(Registered under Real Property Act and Registration of Deeds Act.)

Month.	Consideration of Sales.					Amount of Mortgages.*				
	1941.	1942.	1943.	1944.	1945.	1941.	1942.	1943.	1944.	1945.
	Thousand £.									
January	2,383	2,815	1,226	1,090	1,786	1,148	916	595	383	608
February	2,557	2,472	1,294	1,507	1,999	1,329	975	390	611	593
March	2,677	2,083	1,550	1,552	2,059	1,320	996	503	663	688
April	2,574	2,276	1,517	931	...	1,305	891	536	302	...
May	2,835	1,154	1,185	1,307	...	1,324	526	381	495	...
June	3,029	1,266	1,358	1,809	...	1,273	599	400	687	...
July	3,105	1,540	1,783	1,992	...	1,470	622	399	543	...
August	2,545	1,671	1,379	2,241	...	1,213	451	450	723	...
September ...	2,941	1,616	1,551	1,772	...	1,571	516	432	597	...
October	3,013	1,514	1,549	1,654	...	1,413	423	618	634	...
November ...	2,548	1,942	1,558	1,899	...	1,022	530	558	529	...
December ...	2,972	1,260	1,592	1,708	...	1,242	502	494	699	...
Year	33,239	21,609	17,542	19,462	...	15,630	8,007	5,756	6,866	...

* Including new mortgages and renewals as registered.

NOTE.—The amounts shown relate substantially to mortgages of fixed amounts for fixed periods, and exclude fluctuating advances (such as overdrafts) secured by mortgage. Mortgages providing collateral security are included.

19. LIENS ON CROPS AND WOOL AND MORTGAGES ON LIVESTOCK.

(Registered under Liens on Crops and Wool and Stock Mortgages Act.)

	Month of March.			Three Months ended 31st March.		
	Crops.	Wool.*	Livestock.*	Crops.	Wool.*	Livestock.*
	£	£	£	£	£	£
1943	289,180	237,889	63,339	506,934	625,302	228,643
1944	205,839	139,792	66,354	406,435	331,447	155,732
1945	186,005	176,265	46,253	418,824	384,473	202,680

See note under Table 18. * Loans secured by both lien on wool and mortgage on sheep are included under both headings.

SECTION E.—GENERAL.

20. EMPLOYMENT IN NEW SOUTH WALES.

WAGE AND SALARY EARNERS IN CIVIL EMPLOYMENT.

The estimates shown below are based on Civilian Registers and returns supplied monthly by employers for purposes of Commonwealth Pay-roll Tax as from July, 1941. Employees in defence forces at home or abroad and Government "relief" workers are not included.

Month.	Estimated Total Employment. (Excluding Rural, Household Domestic and Defence Forces.)			Estimated Employment in Main Industrial Groups.							
	Governmental Authorities.	Private Employers.	Total.	Mining and Quarrying.	Facto- ries.	Building and Con- struction.	Transport and Communi- cation.	Retail Trade.	Other Commerce and Finance.	Professional and Personal Services.	
	(a)			(b)	(c)					(d)	
MALES. (Thousands.)											
1933—June ...	103.2	277.5	380.7	...	94.5	...	...	...	...	...
1939—July ...	130.5	393.4	529.9	...	158.8	...	...	...	...	...
1941—July ...	141.5	404.8	546.3	25.8	202.1	53.6	78.2	41.3	43.3	52.5	
1942—July ...	158.6	376.0	534.6	25.4	213.3	44.2	80.3	32.3	36.0	46.0	
1943—Feb. ...	156.7	372.7	529.4	24.7	217.2	34.5	81.0	29.8	36.1	44.3	
1943—July ...	156.6	365.4	522.0	25.1	217.8	29.9	81.5	28.7	33.2	43.3	
1944—Jan. ...	152.5	369.6	522.1	24.6	219.9	28.1	81.5	28.4	34.1	44.8	
1944—Feb. ...	153.0	369.6	522.6	24.7	219.7	28.0	82.2	28.3	34.2	44.7	
1944—Mar. ...	152.4	370.8	523.2	24.7	219.6	28.1	81.9	28.3	34.5	44.9	
1944—April ...	151.6	369.8	521.4	24.5	218.1	27.5	82.3	28.4	34.3	45.0	
1944—May ...	152.3	369.2	521.5	24.6	217.7	27.0	82.8	28.5	34.2	45.0	
1944—June ...	152.3	369.9	522.2	24.4	217.8	25.7	84.4	28.6	34.5	45.1	
1944—July ...	152.4	369.7	522.1	24.4	217.5	26.2	84.1	28.4	34.2	45.4	
1944—Aug. ...	153.2	369.0	522.2	24.4	216.3	25.0	85.2	28.7	34.6	45.8	
1944—Sept. ...	154.2	369.4	523.6	24.7	215.3	26.4	85.4	28.6	35.1	45.9	
1944—Oct. ...	152.5	370.7	523.2	24.7	215.9	26.3	84.1	28.7	35.2	46.0	
1944—Nov. ...	153.4	372.5	525.9	24.8	215.2	26.8	85.6	29.1	35.6	46.2	
1944—Dec. ...	152.1	374.3	526.4	24.5	215.0	27.4	84.4	30.5	35.6	46.4	
1945—Jan. ...	152.9	375.6	528.5	24.8	215.7	27.8	85.6	29.5	35.7	46.8	
1945—Feb. ...	153.3	376.1	529.4	24.6	215.4	28.2	86.2	29.4	35.8	46.8	
FEMALES. (Thousands.)											
1933—June ...	16.8	109.0	125.8	...	36.3	...	...	...	...	...
1939—July ...	19.4	148.6	168.0	...	59.3	...	...	...	...	...
1941—July ...	21.7	192.4	214.1	0.2	76.0	0.7	8.1	40.9	17.6	56.8	
1942—July ...	29.3	203.6	232.9	0.2	84.8	0.7	9.0	41.1	20.7	58.9	
1943—Feb. ...	37.2	207.3	244.5	0.2	91.4	0.7	10.8	39.8	21.4	61.1	
1943—July ...	45.8	204.1	249.9	0.2	94.6	0.7	12.9	38.5	21.4	62.3	
1944—Jan. ...	46.6	205.5	252.1	0.2	94.4	0.7	13.5	37.5	20.6	64.4	
1944—Feb. ...	47.2	205.5	252.7	0.2	94.1	0.7	13.8	37.3	20.6	64.8	
1944—Mar. ...	47.0	207.0	254.0	0.2	94.8	0.7	13.6	37.1	20.4	65.5	
1944—April ...	46.8	205.1	251.9	0.2	94.2	0.7	13.6	37.0	20.3	65.0	
1944—May ...	46.0	205.6	251.6	0.2	92.2	0.7	13.7	37.3	20.2	65.2	
1944—June ...	45.3	205.1	250.4	0.2	91.8	0.7	13.8	37.3	20.3	65.4	
1944—July ...	45.5	206.1	251.6	0.2	92.2	0.8	13.9	37.2	20.4	65.7	
1944—Aug. ...	45.4	206.5	251.9	0.2	92.0	0.7	14.0	37.2	20.4	66.1	
1944—Sept. ...	44.4	207.3	251.7	0.2	91.5	0.7	14.0	37.3	20.8	66.7	
1944—Oct. ...	44.7	207.8	252.5	0.2	91.0	0.7	14.0	37.7	20.8	67.4	
1944—Nov. ...	44.5	209.3	253.8	0.2	90.8	0.7	14.0	38.7	20.8	67.8	
1944—Dec. ...	44.2	210.3	254.5	0.2	90.3	0.7	14.0	40.4	20.7	67.4	
1945—Jan. ...	43.9	207.3	251.2	0.2	88.8	0.7	14.0	38.5	20.7	67.6	
1945—Feb. ...	43.6	208.5	252.1	0.2	89.5	0.7	14.1	38.4	20.6	68.1	
TOTAL. (Thousands.)											
1933—June ...	120.0	386.5	506.5	...	130.8	...	...	...	...	...
1939—July ...	155.9	542.0	697.9	...	218.1	...	...	...	...	...
1941—July ...	163.2	597.2	760.4	26.0	278.1	54.3	86.3	82.2	60.9	109.3	
1942—July ...	187.9	579.6	767.5	25.6	298.1	44.9	89.3	73.4	56.7	104.9	
1943—Feb. ...	193.9	580.0	773.9	24.9	308.6	35.2	91.8	69.6	57.5	105.4	
1943—July ...	202.4	569.5	771.9	25.3	312.4	30.6	94.4	67.2	53.7	105.6	
1944—Jan. ...	199.1	575.1	774.2	24.8	314.3	28.8	95.0	65.9	54.7	109.2	
1944—Feb. ...	200.2	575.1	775.3	24.9	313.8	28.7	96.0	65.6	54.8	109.5	
1944—Mar. ...	199.4	577.8	777.2	24.9	314.4	28.8	95.5	65.4	54.9	110.4	
1944—April ...	198.4	574.9	773.3	24.7	312.3	28.2	95.9	65.4	54.6	110.0	
1944—May ...	198.3	574.8	773.1	24.8	309.9	27.7	96.5	65.8	54.4	110.2	
1944—June ...	197.6	575.0	772.6	24.6	309.6	26.4	98.2	65.9	54.8	110.5	
1944—July ...	197.9	575.8	773.7	24.6	309.7	27.0	98.0	65.6	54.6	111.7	
1944—Aug. ...	198.6	575.5	774.1	24.6	308.3	25.7	99.2	65.9	55.0	111.9	
1944—Sept. ...	198.6	576.7	775.3	24.9	306.8	27.1	99.4	65.9	55.9	112.6	
1944—Oct. ...	197.2	578.5	775.7	24.9	306.9	27.0	98.1	66.4	56.0	113.4	
1944—Nov. ...	197.9	581.8	779.7	25.0	306.0	27.5	99.6	67.8	56.4	114.0	
1944—Dec. ...	196.3	584.6	780.9	24.7	305.3	28.1	98.4	70.9	56.3	113.8	
1945—Jan. ...	196.8	582.9	779.7	25.0	304.5	28.5	99.6	68.0	56.4	114.4	
1945—Feb. ...	196.9	584.6	781.5	24.8	304.9	28.9	100.3	67.8	56.4	114.9	

(a) Employees of Commonwealth, State and Local Government Authorities and of Allied Governments.

(b) Exclusive of Working Proprietors. Numbers from July, 1944, are subject to revision.

(c) Includes Allied Works projects.

(d) Includes Education, Health, Hotels and Restaurants, Professional and Personal Services (except private domestic).

21. CONSUMPTION OF GAS AND ELECTRICITY.

Index of Monthly Sales of Gas and Electricity (Sydney).

(Based on number of units each equal to 3,412 British Thermal Units.)

Month.	Average, 1929 to 1931.	1929.	1932.	1936.	1938.	1939.	1940.	1941.	1942.	1943.	1944.	1945.
January ...	100	103	93	110	119	125	136	141	141	164	155	173
February ...	100	105	95	112	122	125	135	142	145	159	161	174
March ...	100	102	95	111	121	130	130	143	146	164	165	171
April ...	100	104	96	110	119	125	137	141	147	164	162	...
May ...	100	106	95	110	122	128	128	146	144	166	172	...
June ...	100	103	99	114	127	131	135	150	154	174	176	...
July ...	100	105	97	112	126	134	139	149	158	171	177	...
August ...	100	106	97	107	128	135	137	151	157	181	181	...
September ...	100	108	97	113	123	134	134	151	158	171	172	...
October ...	100	109	96	113	121	135	137	154	163	162	169	...
November ...	100	109	97	116	124	136	139	152	161	164	171	...
December ...	100	105	99	116	124	131	138	153	165	163	169	...
Year ...	100	105	96	112	123	131	135	148	154	167	170	...

The base for each month is the average sales in the corresponding month of the three years,
1929 to 1931.

22. RETAIL PRICE INDEX NUMBERS—SYDNEY—WAR PERIOD.

(Base: Weighted Average for 6 Capital Cities in 1923-27 = 1,000.)

Quarter.	Food and Groceries.	Rent— 4 and 5 rooms.	Clothing.	Miscellaneous Items.	Total Household Expenditure.	
					Index Number.	Increase from Sept. Quarter, 1939.
						Per cent.
1939—September ...	930	1,039	841	939	933	...
1940—September ...	945	1,042	948	996	973	4'3
1941—September ...	947	1,043	1,129	1,062	1,027	10'1
1942—September ...	1,061	1,042	1,337	1,105	1,122	20'3
1943—March ...	1,050	1,042	1,408	1,145	1,141	22'3
June ...	1,065	1,042	1,479	1,162	1,165	24'9
September ...	1,039	1,042	1,463	1,176	1,154	23'7
December ...	1,015	1,042	1,449	1,179	1,143	22'5
1944—March ...	1,019	1,043	1,443	1,176	1,143	22'5
June ...	1,025	1,043	1,437	1,172	1,143	22'5
September ...	1,035	1,043	1,437	1,167	1,146	22'8
December ...	1,022	1,043	1,441	1,169	1,142	22'4
1945—March ...	1,027	1,043	1,420	1,163	1,138	22'0

23. BASIC WAGE—INDUSTRIAL AWARDS.

Amount per week—Adult Males.

YEAR.	Sydney, Newcastle, Wollongong— Port Kembla.*				Crown Employees. (All Districts).			
	Quarterly adjustment commencing—							
	February.	May.	August.	November.	February.	May.	August.	November.
	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
1939 ...	81 0	82 0	81 0	82 0	80 0	80 0	80 0	80 0
1940 ...	82 0	83 0	85 0	85 0	81 0	81 0	83 0	84 0
1941 ...	88 0	88 0	89 0	89 0	86 0	87 0	87 0	88 0
1942 ...	91 0	93 0	95 0	97 0	90 0	92 0	94 0	96 0
1943 ...	98 0	98 0	100 0	99 0	97 0	97 0	99 0	98 0
1944 ...	99 0	99 0	99 0	99 0	97 0	97 0	97 0	98 0
1945 ...	99 0	98 0	...	...	97 0	97 0	...	...

* In all other districts, except Broken Hill, the rates were 3s. less.

In 1939 quarterly variations commenced in March, June, September and December.

24. PRICES OF METALS.

Average Monthly Prices of Metals (Export Parity f.o.b. Australia) in Australian Currency.

Period.	Silver (Standard).		Lead.		Zinc (Electrolytic).		Tin (Standard).		Gold (Fine).	
	per oz.		per ton.		per ton.		per ton.		per oz.	
	s.	d.	£	s. d.	£	s. d.	£	s. d.	£	s. d.
1929	2	0·57	21	14 5	25	19 5	200	11 5	4	4 11
1938	2	0·14	17	12 11	19	12 10	228	11 10	8	17 2
1939	2	1·42	17	12 1	19	15 3	268	3 6	9	14 4
1940	2	2·95	18	14 6	22	9 11	292	19 8	10	13 1
1941	2	4·26	19	11 4	22	12 11	295	1 6	10	13 8
1942	2	4·66	21	9 9	22	2 11	285	9 1	10	9 1
1943	2	4·63	22	19 2	23	15 2	283	1 6	10	9 0
1944	2	4·63	26	3 0	24	9 4	335	7 2	10	10 1
1944—September...	2	4·63	28	0 5	28	0 2	344	9 6	10	11 0
October	2	4·63	28	10 10	30	12 5	346	0 6	10	12 0
November	2	4·63	26	4 6	22	0 6	346	0 6	10	12 0
December	2	4·63	26	9 4	22	0 6	346	0 6	10	12 0
1945—January ...	2	4·80	27	0 5	31	0 7	345	6 7	10	12 0

25. STOCK EXCHANGE INDEX (SYDNEY).

The following index of the values of the principal Company shares on Sydney Stock Exchange embraces the ordinary shares of companies (excluding banking companies) whose business is conducted wholly or largely in New South Wales.

The prices of individual shares are unweighted, and each group average is the mean of the average monthly prices per £ of paid-up capital. The aggregate index is the average for the whole of the shares included in the groups with the addition of 24 miscellaneous shares. There is no base period as the index represents the ratio per cent. of the average prices of ordinary shares to their par values, adjustment being made where capital is written off or bonus shares are issued.

Month.	23 Manufacturing and Distributing Companies.	10 Retail Companies.	8 Public Utility Companies.	5 Pastoral and Finance Companies.	5 Insurance Companies.	Total* Companies 75.	34 Active Shares included in foregoing.
April, 1929 \$	179·3	183·8	129·4	174·1	243·5	174·4	172·6
Sept., 1931 \$	72·3	60·2	87·9	75·2	121·3	74·4	77·2
Mar., 1937 \$	213·8	203·8	181·0	169·2	281·2	190·4	200·5
1944—March...	237·1	194·0	149·7	135·1	254·1	185·7	200·7
April ...	237·2	194·0	150·1	136·9	254·1	185·8	201·0
May ...	237·1	193·8	150·1	138·7	254·1	185·9	201·1
June ...	237·2	194·3	150·4	138·7	254·1	186·0	201·4
July ...	237·3	195·3	150·4	138·8	254·1	186·1	201·5
Aug. ...	237·3	195·8	150·2	139·1	254·1	186·3	201·7
Sept. ...	237·5	196·2	150·6	139·3	254·1	186·6	202·0
Oct. ...	240·2	202·3	160·9	145·0	263·3	192·0	206·6
Nov. ...	240·3	202·6	162·8	145·4	264·1	192·5	207·1
Dec. ...	240·4	203·0	162·5	146·0	264·1	192·6	207·0
1945—Jan. ...	240·6	203·5	162·7	146·3	264·1	192·8	207·3
Feb. ...	241·7	205·0	168·5	148·0	264·5	194·7	209·3
Mar. ...	242·2	205·9	170·1	148·7	264·6	195·4	209·8

* Including 24 Miscellaneous Companies. \$ The highest point of the index (75 Companies) prior to the slump was reached in April 1929; the lowest point was in September, 1931. The highest point of the pre-war period was in March, 1937.

The estimated population of N.S.W. at 30th June, 1944, was 2,870,956 or 39·3 per cent. of the total population of Australia (Sydney and Suburbs, 31st December, 1943, 1,398,170).

NOTICE.

This summary is issued as soon as practicable after the end of each month. The subscription for twelve months is 3s. (posted) payable to the Government Printer, Phillip-street, Sydney, or 3d. per single copy at the Government Printing Office. This charge applies in all cases, except exchanges and Government Departments.

The figures for the most recent months are, in general, subject to revision.

Bureau of Statistics and Economics, 61 Hunter-street, Sydney.

30th April, 1945.